

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
POPULATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 18, 2000  
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room  
302 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

George Pettit, Gilbert, Chairman	Karen Shurko, Goodyear
Debbie Kohn, Avondale	*Horatio Skeete, Litchfield Park
*Joe Blanton, Buckeye	Anne Blech, Mesa
*Usama Abujbarah, Cave Creek	Shiloh Thatcher for Neil Urban, Maricopa
Bob Pazera, Chandler	County
*Eddie Rios, El Mirage	Tim Loughrin, Peoria
Geir Sverdrup, Fountain Hills	Remy Autz, Phoenix
*Tina Notah, Gila River Indian Community	Harry Higgins, Scottsdale
*Ralph Vasquez, Gila Bend	Rosalinda Herrera, Surprise
James Holland, Glendale	*Neil Calfee, Tempe
Duncan Miller, Paradise Valley	*Jerry Stricklin, Wickenburg
	*Dick Gregory, Youngtown
	Beverly Turner, Gila Bend

\*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Dana Pasciak, Glendale	Foster Burton, Citizen
Tim Tilton, Phoenix	Anubhav Bagley, MAG
Joanie Mead, Scottsdale	Kelly Taft, MAG
Susan Abbott, Bureau of the Census	Harry Wolfe, MAG
Betty Jeffries, DES	
Kyle McMaster, Chandler	

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Pettit at 10:05 a.m.

2. Call to the Audience

There were no requests from the audience to address the MAG POPTAC.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2000

It was moved by Harry Higgins seconded by Remy Autz and unanimously recommended to approve the meeting minutes of April 20, 2000.

4. Status Report on Census 2000

Jim Howard presented a status report for the Census Bureau. He reported that Bureau staff are currently undertaking Nonresponse Follow-Up (NRFU) Operations and that the Denver Region is leading with 60% of the NRFU completed.

Mr. Howard added that the NRFU involves contacting nearly a half million people. He requested Howard requested everyone's assistance in portraying the Census positively to encourage citizens to respond to census questionnaires. He stated that census enumerators are contacting households that did not return their census questionnaire and that the program would last through July 7, 2000.

Mr. Howard also indicated that a computer will choose questionnaires at random for reinterview to make sure that enumerators are recording information accurately; and that potentially, an individual could be contacted 6 times by a Census taker during operations. Mr. Howard also indicated that there are Census workers involved in operations unrelated to Census 2000, which is creating some confusion.

It was noted that after the Non-Response Follow-Up is completed the Census Bureau will initiate its coverage improvement program, a last effort to collect and verify missing addresses. This program deletes duplicate addresses, fills in incomplete questionnaires, etc.

Mr. Howard said that he is keeping a list of people who will follow up at the end of all of the programs to make sure that these people were counted. He encourages others to do the same. This program provides an opportunity for Census Bureau staff to verify addresses submitted as a part of the new construction program, appealed addresses and vacancy rates.

The Census data will be released by the end of the year. This will only be an Arizona count for apportioning Congressional seats. The numbers for legislative redistricting in Arizona will be available by April 2001 and will include counts by ethnicity down to block units. Mr. Wolfe reported that there would be no preliminary census counts provided.

5. State Financial Assistance for Promoting Census 2000

Susan Coffroth provided a status report on that morning's PIO meeting. The Arizona State Legislature appropriated \$150,000 to assist local governments in promoting Census 2000 and encouraging people to send in their Census Questionnaire during the Nonresponse Follow-Up Program. In Maricopa County, Chandler, Mesa, Glendale, Guadalupe, Phoenix and Litchfield Park have applied for funds to distribute census promotional material, hold rallies and conduct media buys. The East Valley pooled their money and rented Census vans to reach hard to count areas. In Scottsdale, PSA's, door hangers and using Census stamps on outgoing mail. Glendale is also using door hangers and coordinating their efforts to coincide with the time the Census takers will be in the area. The campaign runs through July 7 and they are about half way through the verification process.

6. Status of Address Update Programs for Update/Leave Area

Harry Wolfe provided a table showing the status of accepted appeals and discussed the status of the address update programs. He stated that Phoenix's list came back with more addresses than turned in because the new addresses found in the field more than compensated for rejected addresses.

7. Statistical Areas Program

Shiloh Thatcher reported that on April 18, 2000 Maricopa County received Participant Statistical Areas Program maps from the Bureau of the Census for verification. She said that Maricopa County is providing an opportunity for member agencies to review the maps and provide revisions by May 15, 2000. Ms. Thatcher stated no changes were made to the electronic files and that all changes were made on paper maps and would be mailed to the Census Bureau today (May 18, 2000) She estimated that about 95% of the recommended changes had been accepted.

8. Building Permit Completion Status Report

Harry Wolfe reported that on May 1, 2000 the first quarter residential completions for 2000 were due. He stated that it is important to receive the completion information by July, otherwise it will not be included in the 2000 population estimates for City and County. Mr. Wolfe also noted that this exclusion can hurt the member agencies in terms of distribution of lottery funds (which are based upon the estimates) and the determination per capita water use targets by the Arizona Department of Water Resources. He said that completion information needs to be provided to DES by the end of July 2000. Mr. Wolfe added that it would be interesting to see how the estimates compare to the final Census numbers because it gives MAG an opportunity to verify calculation methods.

9. Water Service Area Resident Population Updates for July 1, 1999

Harry Wolfe stated that each year MAG prepares on behalf of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) Water Service Area Resident Population Updates. He noted that in cooperation with ADWR, MAG staff had prepared the 1999 Updates using a method that consistent with the method used to prepare the July 1, 1999 Municipality Resident Population Updates adopted by MAG.

Mr. Wolfe explained that these Updates are used by ADWR to monitor compliance with municipal per capita water use targets. He said that the draft updates had been reviewed by water service providers. It was moved by Harry Higgins seconded by Jerry Stricklin and unanimously recommended to approve the ADWR Water Service Area Resident Population Updates.

10. Pilot Testing of Questionnaire For Jurisdictions that Participated in the Local Update of Census Addresses Program

Harry Wolfe reported that the National Academy of Sciences formed a Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Steering Group to evaluate and identify potential enhancements to the address update program and that he is a member of the Committee. Mr. Wolfe requested volunteers from two MAG member agencies to participate in a pilot program and respond to a draft telephone survey on the LUCA program. Mesa and Chandler volunteered for the pilot. He added that the surveys will need to be completed by Wednesday, May 31, 2000 and that he would take the results to a meeting of the LUCA Steering Group on June 2, 2000 in Washington, D.C. The responses to the survey will be used to help make refinements to it.

11. MAG GIS and Database Enhancement Project

Rick Brammer gave an update and explained what kind of information would be collected from the member agencies. He explained that MAG is undertaking a GIS and Database Enhancement Project to establish the base from which a new set of socioeconomic projections will be developed.

He noted that his firm will be asking how many employees are employed now versus how many last year; preparing a development and redevelopment database. He will also be collecting existing and updated general land use plan information for InfoTech to digitize. He said that he needed at a minimum a hard copy map, but preferred digital files.

Mr. Brammer mentioned that MAG needs to obtain information on each member agency's land use codes and will then develop an equivalency file to relate the codes to the standard MAG land use classification system. The updated information will be returned to Member Agencies for review prior to completion of the coverages..

Mr. Brammer said that DES would be contacted about the possibility of obtaining employment data by Traffic Analysis Zone. DES is not allowed to provide information on specific employers because of confidentiality requirements.

Harry Wolfe commented that the consultants are examining ways to keep the databases updated on a regular basis.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the MAG POPTAC is schedule for Thursday, June 15, 2000.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.